Message Text

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R 142236Z JUN 77 FM AMEMBASSY QUITO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4725 INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAOUIL

CONFIDENTIAL QUITO 3944

E. O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PINR PGOV PFOR EC

SUBJ: BACKGROUND TO RESIGNATION TO FORMER MINISTER JORGE SALVADOR LARA

REF: QUITO 3882

- 1. THE EMBASSY HAS HEARD SEVERAL DIFFERENT STORIES ABOUT THE STUE CAUSES FOR THE RESIGNATION OF JORGE SALVADOR LARA AS GOE FOREIGN MINISTER OF JUNE 10. ALL OF THEM CITE DISAGREEMMENT BETWEEN SALVADOR AND SUPREME COUNCIL. ONE CIVILIAN MINISTER TOLD CHARGE AT A RECEPTION OF EVENING OF JUNE 10 THAT SALVADOR LOST HIS POSITION BECAUSE "HE DID NOT KNOW HOW TO SALUTE AND CLICK HIS HEELS IN THE MILITARY FASHION."
- 2. ANOTHER SOURCE, WHO CLAIMS TO HAVE BEEN PERSONALLY INVOLVED, SAYS THAT SALVADOR'S RESIGNATION WAS REQUESTED AS A RESULT OF A SERIES OF ACTIONS HE HAD TAKEN WITHOUT CLEARANCE OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL. SOURCE LISTED THE INVITATION BY SALVADOR TO ADMIRAL MASSERA OF THE ARGENTINA JUNTA TO VISIT ECUADOR, STATEMENT MADE IN SPAIN ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF SPAIN AND PORTUGAL BECOMING MEMBER OF OAS, INCREASES IN REPRESENTATIONAL FUNDS FOR MISSIONS OF FOREIGN MINISTRY TRAVELING ABROAD, AND, AS THE LAST STRAW, REFUSAL TO NAME CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 QUITO 03944 142258Z

ECUADOREAN STUDENT AND PROFESSOR AS GOE OBSERVERS TO OASGA MEETING IN GRENADA IN ACCORDANCE WITH AGREEMENT BETWEEN CENTRAL UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL REATIONS AND GOE. EMBASSY IS PRONE TO ACCEPT THIS ACCOUNT AS ACCURATE.

3. AS IS USUAL IN ECUADOR, THE CHANGE OF ONE MINISTER

STIMULATED MANY STORIES ABOUT ADDITIONAL CABINET CHANGES AND POSSIBLE CHANGES IN SUPREME COUNCIL. GOE TOOK PAINS TO DISPELL SUCH RUMORS, AND AT LEAST SIX VERY HIGH GOE OFFICIALS MADE IT A POINT AT RECEPTION ON JUNE 10 TO REASSURE CHARGE THAT NO FURTHER CHANGES IN GOE WOULD BE IMMEDIATELY FORTHCOMING. RUMORS ABOUT CHANGES SEEM TO BE DIMINISHING AND GOE IS OPERATING NORMALLY.. CORR

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Subject: BACKGROUND TO RESIGNATION TO FORMER MINISTER JORGE SALVADOR LARA

TAGS: PINR, PGOV, PFOR, EC, (SALVADOR LARA, JORGE)

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